

Application No. 09/727,358
Paper Dated October 17, 2003
Reply to USPTO Correspondence of March 25, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 116-001940

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to emphasize that the charged-particle beam is directed at each measurement region for a given time period and that accumulated current or averaged current over the time period is used to generate a brightness-based map.

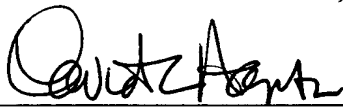
The examiner has rejected the claims as anticipated by Yamada et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,559,662. Filed herewith is a certified copy of the priority document and an English translation of the priority document certified to be a true and correct translation.

The Japanese priority application corresponding to the above-referenced application was filed November 30, 1999 which is prior to the § 102(e) date of Yamada et al. (November 27, 2000).

In view of the perfection of Applicant's priority claim, this case is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

WEBB ZIESENHEIM LOGSDON
ORKIN & HANSON, P.C.

By 
David C. Hanson, Reg. No. 23,024
Attorney for Applicant
700 Koppers Building
436 Seventh Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1818
Telephone: (412) 471-8815
Facsimile: (412) 471-4094
E-mail: webblaw@webblaw.com